



Trevor Smith Design
Architectural Designer

➤ Project Planning Pack



Better by Design

Contents

Introduction

Help getting your home extension or home improvement project started.

Page
3

The Design Process

Information about the design process from gathering information, knowledge to compiling ideas.

4

Infographic

Infographic showing [the design process](#) for all our architectural design projects.

5

Research Checklist

Designed to help you carry out your own research and gather information to build a strong idea of what you would like to achieve.

6

Things to Consider

20 questions which will reinstate or challenge what you already know about your house, what you would like, want and need.

7-8

Creating Your Design Brief

Putting together all the information gathered in the previous tasks and assembling your design brief in a clear, concise way. This section could potentially save time, save money and help reduce misunderstandings.

9-10

How Ready Are You?

Find out how ready you are and how to book your [Home Vision Consultation](#). See how we have made other peoples dreams a reality - view our [projects](#) and [case studies](#) on our [website](#) and [Facebook](#).

11

Introduction

To help get your home extension or home improvement project started we have put together this FREE Project Planning Pack which will help you identify, research and gain a better understanding of the whole design and construction process.

This project planning pack is designed to act as your guide into the minimum amount of research that you can carry out easily and quickly on your own. This simple process will help direct and align your project parameters with your ideas, and who knows may provide you the key to unlocking better ideas, reduce misunderstandings and improve the dialogue between you, your family and your architectural designer.

Always include all members of the family to make this brainstorming activity more fun and enjoyable. This is your chance to get creative. Help us to make your dream become a reality! The research carried out here is the foundation for our [Home Vision Consultation](#).



The Design Process

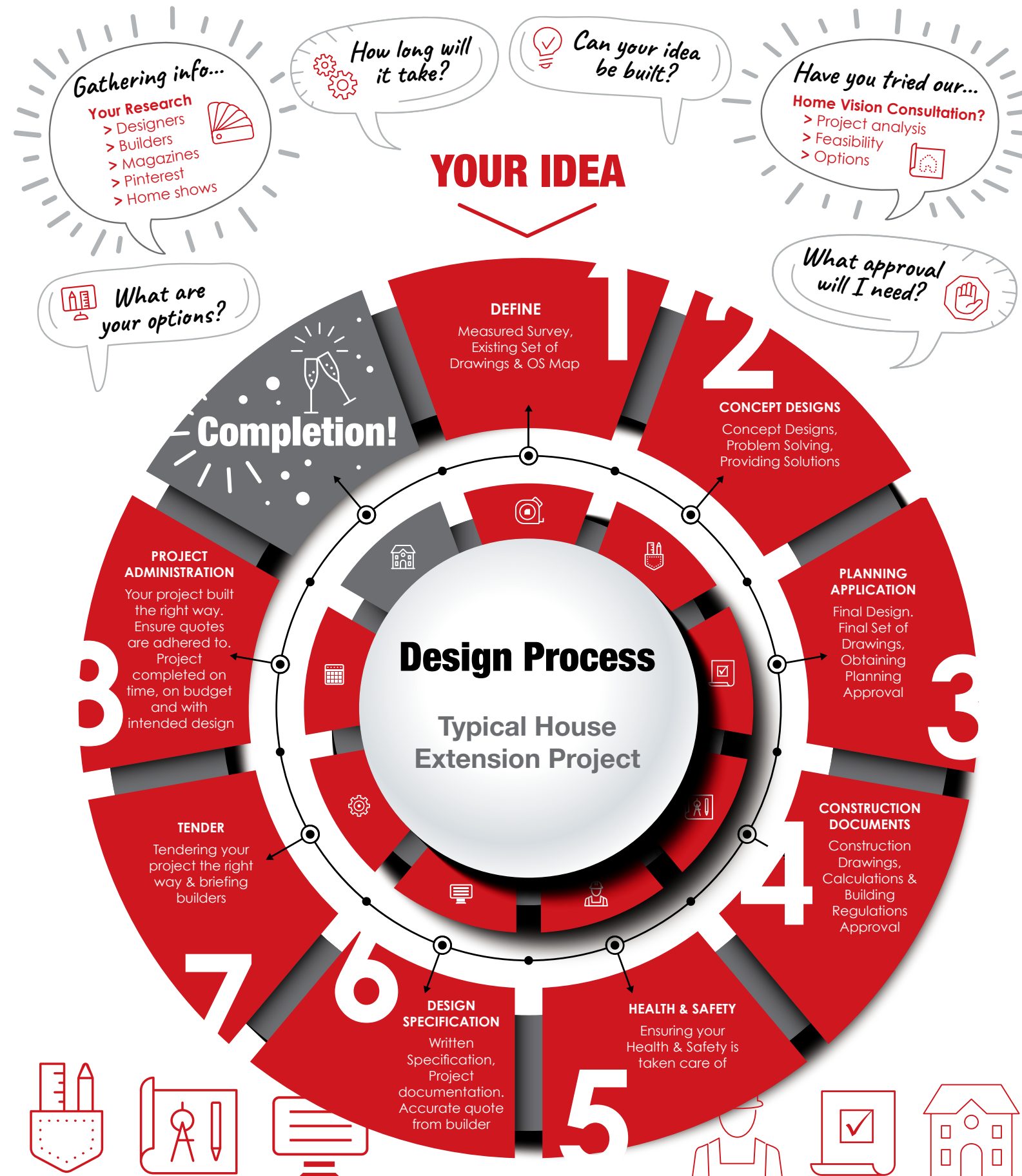
If you are at the beginning of your home extension or home improvement journey, the first area to look at is carrying out your own research. This is where you will be gathering information, knowledge and ideas. At the point where you want to get serious, you will want to check the feasibility of your ideas and understand what the project constraints will be and to see if your ideas can be achieved.

If you work with me the next step will be the [Home Vision Consultation](#) where we can go through all your research, ideas and provide the missing parts to your project. This will ensure your project starts off with a clear vision of the path ahead, eliminating any misconceptions, reducing risks and ensuring you understand what costs and time scales are involved.



“ You cant go back and change the beginning but you can start where you are and change the ending”. C.S. Lewis.

Infographic



Research Checklist

- Speak with family, friends and colleagues who have done similar work, find out how it worked out for them. Create a project mood board.
Visit: www.self-build.co.uk/creating-mood-board
- Carry out internet research e.g. [Pinterest](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#).
- Research local Architectural Designers. Start with www.trevorsmith.design 😊
- Research local builders.
- Research manufacturers and supplier websites for ideas and information.
- Research the history of your house. Are there any restrictions? Is it listed, in a conservation area, are there any tree protection orders (TPOs) nearby? What year was your house built?
- Research your house sale value, is it worth extending or consider moving?
Visit: www.self-build.co.uk
- Research the planning history of your neighbours house, have they extended? What did they achieve? Do you like it?
- Are you planning to self manage your project or how much help do you need? Visit: www.self-build.co.uk
- Evaluate how much additional space you need: What type of activities will the new space be used for? Visit: www.self-build.co.uk
- Is there a need for disabled access arrangements? Research what solutions you need.
- Make sure you consider the impact of your outdoor space.
Visit: www.self-build.co.uk
- Looking to redesign your kitchen or bathroom? Start your research here for kitchens: www.self-build.co.uk/kitchen-layouts and bathrooms have a look here: www.self-build.co.uk/bathroom
- Research likely construction costs.
Visit: www.self-build.co.uk/extension
- We share all our home extension, home improvement and house renovation projects on [Facebook](#), don't forget to give us the thumbs up! 👍



Great things are done by a series of small things brought together".
Vincent Van Gogh.

Things to Consider

1. Do you know where to locate incoming mains services and meters in and around your home?
 - > Gas/Oil
 - > Electricity
 - > Water
 - > Telecommunications
 - > Drainage Manholes
2. Is your house listed or located within a Conservation Area? Y N
3. Are there any covenants or rights of way or any other possible legal restrictions? Y N
4. Is your house in the location that you want it to be? Y N
5. What are the reasons for staying in your house?
6. Do you need an extension, garden room or conservatory?
7. How much more additional space do you need?
8. Will you be replacing or updating your kitchen? Y N
9. Will you be replacing or updating your bathroom suite? Y N
10. Will you be replacing or updating your stairs? Y N



You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step".
Martin Luther King.

11. Will you be replacing or updating your windows and doors? Y N
12. Do you want to change the external appearance of your home? Y N
13. Do you need more or improved storage space? Y N
14. What are your cost expectations for design work and construction work?

15. When do you want or need the project completed by?

16. Do you fully understand the design and construction process? Y N

17. Are you considering implementing energy efficiency improvements?

- > Additional insulation
- > Replacement windows and doors
- > Replacement heating system
- > Secondary heating (wood burning stove)
- > Photovoltaic and hot water solar panels
- > Air source or ground source heating system Y N

18. Do you have any builders in mind to carry out the work? Y N

19. Do you need [Planning Permission](#)? Y N

20. Will you be carrying out any improvements to the garden at the same time?
i.e. hot tub, decking, patio.

Creating Your Design Brief

Your current situation is...

Provide an explanation of your existing house, location and any known constraints and what problem(s) you are trying to solve. Refer back to your research in 'Research Checklist' Page 6.

You would like to achieve...

Provide an explanation of what you need and want to improve your home and day-to-day life. Refer back to your research in 'Research Checklist' Page 6.

What pieces of the puzzle are missing and what do you need help with?

Refer back to the 'Infographic' on Page 5.



If I had six hours to chop down a tree, I'd spend the first four sharpening the axe".
Abraham Lincoln.



In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing and the worst thing you can do is nothing".
Theodore Roosevelt.

We like these examples of completed projects...

Refer back to 'Research Checklist'.

We absolutely must have...

Refer back to 'Research Checklist' and prioritise what you must have.

Notes:

“ If you can dream it. You can do it” . *Walt Disney.*

How Ready Are You?

Use our colour coded system to work out how ready you are to start your project.



NO

This is not for me right now. I need more time to research and consider my options.



MAYBE

I need a bit more time and have a few questions to ask.



YES

I have completed everything in this project planning pack. I am ready to book my Home Vision Consultation.

What colour are you? Don't forget we are here for support and can point you in the right direction at any stage of your home improvement or renovation journey.

Virtual - Home Vision Consultation

Get Started on Your **No Obligation**, Virtual Consultation

We will discuss and discover:

- ✓ What is Possible
- ✓ Realistic Timescales
- ✓ Design Costs
- ✓ Construction Costs
- ✓ Overview of the Whole Process

BOOK NOW >



